

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM SPONSOR APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division is announcing the availability of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Application for Participation packets and announcing that the SFSP *mandatory* sponsor training workshops will be conducted throughout California during the months of March and April 2001.

Agencies wishing to become an SFSP sponsor must attend at least one *mandatory* sponsor training workshop and submit a complete application by June 15, 2001. Due to the SFSP federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30, year-round sponsors must reapply in September to avoid a break in service. Year-round sponsors must have sites that offer meals to children who attend year-round schools.

SFSP sponsors receive reimbursement for providing meals to children 18 years of age and younger during periods when they are out of school for fifteen (15) or more continuous school days. Entities eligible to administer the SFSP include schools, residential camps, Indian tribal governments, and units of municipal, state, county, or local government and private nonprofit agencies. Possible sites may be in areas where at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced price school meals.

Sponsors serving children in residential camps and children of migrant workers are eligible to serve up to three meals per day. Other eligible sponsors may serve any two meals or snacks per day. Meals must meet the United States Department of Agriculture's meal pattern. Sponsors may prepare meals or purchase them from a school food authority, a public entity, or a commercial food service vendor. Sponsors must keep records of administrative and operational costs and meal counts for claiming reimbursement. Currently, the maximum reimbursement rates for meals are \$1.28 for breakfast, \$2.23 for lunch or supper, and \$0.52 for snacks. An additional administrative reimbursement is allowed for each meal.

To request an SFSP application packet and obtain additional information regarding the *mandatory* sponsor training workshops, contact the California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division, Resources and Information Management Unit, at 560 J Street, Suite 270, Sacramento, CA 95814, or at (800) 333-5675.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the California Department of Education's Nutrition Services Division (NSD) prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). The USDA and the NSD are equal opportunity providers and employers.